

TOWN OF KNIGHTDALE

Planning & Engineering Committee
6:00 pm
Monday, September 14, 2015
950 Steeple Square Court, Conference Room
Knightdale, NC 27545

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Tripp called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

The following members were present:

Town Council Members present: Councilor Swan, Councilor Tripp

LURB Member Liaisons present: Pete Mangum

Staff Members present: Fred Boone, Jason Brown, Joseph Turner, Donna Tierney, and Jennifer

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II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 10, 2015

...Mr. Swan moved to accept the minutes of the August 10, 2015 meeting as presented. Mr. Mangum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Capital Projects Update

Mr. Boone updated the committee that the Smithfield Road striping and paving is complete. The signal work will be completed tomorrow, September 15. Mr. Boone will have a walk through with the Department of Transportation on Wednesday, September 16.

Mr. Boone also updated the committee on Hair Junction and the Lauren's Way sidewalk projects, which were scheduled for last fiscal year. The previous contractors did not show up after the contract was awarded so the purchase order was canceled. A new purchase order in FY16 has been completed, and the new contractor should start this week. The work at Hair Junction will be completed first.

B. Discussion of Parking in Front Yards (OTAC Request)

Mr. Brown explained that this issue was raised in a previous Old Town Advisory Committee meeting. He presented 2 options for consideration. The first option would require any parking in the front yard to be on a hard surface. Any added parking area could not exceed 304 sq. ft. or 40% of the front yard, whichever is less. The second option is more flexible and would allow a resident to extend the driveway with the existing material used (unprepared, dust free materials). Residents could extend the driveway to a maximum of 304 square feet or 40% of the front yard, whichever is less.

Committee members agreed it would be best to start with the lenient option and see how it develops. Several members inquired about enforcement of this possible requirement. Mr. Brown explained it may be challenging, but placing it in the Town Code would allow for a violation fee schedule to be developed. Code Enforcement would handle education and the first round of complaints. The Police Department would handle repeat offenders. Mr. Brown will speak to the Town attorney regarding enforcement before bringing it to Council.

Staff clarified that the regulation would only apply in the Town limits, not ETJ.

Mr. Mangum motioned to proceed with moving the second option to the Public Safety Committee and Town Council for consideration. Councilor Swan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Children at Play Signs in Churchill

Mr. Boone reported that a Churchill homeowner, concerned for a neighbor's child, has requested Children at Play signs. Mr. Boone's research found that the Department of Transportation does not use them, and a North Carolina Roads list serve reported that the signs give a false sense of security. The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices states that a proliferation of warning signs leads to people not paying attention to the signs. Mr. Boone recommended not implementing the requested signs as it was not in the Town's best interest.

Councilor Swan motioned to decline the Children at Play signs request. Mr. Mangum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Speed Limit Reduction on First Avenue (OTAC Request)

Mr. Brown recapped the speeding concern on First Avenue near Poplar Street. The speed limit currently drops from 35 to 25 near Sycamore crosswalk while traveling downhill. Mr. Brown has spoken to Police Chief Lawrence Capps who thinks the speed could be reduced in the entire corridor. Mr. Boone put the stealth stat out but a malfunction resulted in no data being collected. Councilor Tripp suggested drawing attention to the crosswalk.

Mr. Mangum motioned to change to the speed limit to 25 on N. First Ave. between Knightdale Boulevard and Smithfield Road. Councilor Swan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Boone will bring it to Council in October.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Having reached the end of the evening's agenda and hearing no further discussion, the meeting *adjourned* at 6:43 p.m.

Chairman of the Planning and Engineering Committee, Dustin Tripp

Attest, Clerk to the Planning and Engineering Committee, Donna Tierney